

TOWN OF ARCADIA

Trempealeau County



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Jon Schultz, Chairman (715)919-1755
Donna Brogan, Supervisor No. 2 (715)797-0806

Barbara G. Tock, Supervisor No. 1 (608)323-3474
Nancy Rohn, Town Clerk/Treasurer (608) 323-7063

Town of Arcadia Minutes of Regular Town Board Meeting Thursday, October 27, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.

The board meeting was called to order by Chairman Jon Schultz at 7:01 p.m. Open meeting certifications were met. Roll call was taken. Board members present: Jon Schultz, Barb Tock and Donna Brogan. A list of residents that attended is available at the Town Hall.

Jon Schultz led the Pledge of Allegiance.

A motion was made by Donna Brogan and seconded by Jon Schultz to adopt the agenda. The motion carried unanimously with a voice vote.

A motion was made by Barb Tock and seconded by Donna Brogan to approve the minutes of the September 28th, 2016 Regular Board meeting. The motion was carried unanimously with a voice vote.

A motion was made by Donna Brogan and seconded by Barb Tock to approve the minutes of the September 28th, 2016 public information meeting regarding the Mill Road Bridge project. The motion carried unanimously with a voice vote.

The Board tabled the minutes from the October 13th, 2016 meeting to give themselves time to thoroughly review.

Clerk/Treasurer Nancy Rohn reviewed the disbursements for October 14th through October 27th, 2016. A motion was made by Barb Tock and seconded by Jon Schultz to approve the disbursements. The motion carried unanimously with a voice vote.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

At 7:08 p.m. Chairman Schultz opened the floor to public comments for other topics that were not listed on the October 27th, 2016 agenda.

**Karen Geske – Commented that there is a pine tree near the intersection of North Creek Road and Church Hill that needs to be trimmed as it interferes with the line of sight. The Board will look into.

After the third call by Chairman Schultz the Public Comment section closed at 7:11 p.m.

AGENDA ITEMS:

- **Review and possible approval of Independence Fire District Budget:** Clerk N. Rohn stated that the budget was approved, but the City Clerk hasn't had an opportunity yet to provide the amount that the Town of Arcadia owes for 2017. This item was tabled until the next Town Board meeting.
- **Review and possible approval of Arcadia Ambulance Budget:** Donna Brogan led the discussion. She stated that the overall increase will be \$4.30 per person. Some of the reasons for the additional funding request include saving for a new ambulance and worker's compensation increase. They are also having problems getting enough volunteers. A possible solution that is being looked at is to pay someone on a part-time basis; 12 hours a week at \$14 an hour. With this idea they are hoping to entice people to help out. J. Schultz asked some questions regarding how determination would be made as to who would be chosen to receive payment. Brogan stated that it would be up the ambulance committee to decide. Discussion then continued regarding the increase in the Town of Arcadia's share of the overall ambulance budget, stating that it would increase from \$28,000 this year to \$35,000 for 2017. The Board reviewed the itemized budget figures, and Tock asked about the "bad debt" that was listed. Brogan stated that approximately 20% of the charges are uncollectible. The committee is trying to get a handle on this, working with their outside billing service. The EMT's are trying to get more personal information for billing purposes, but sometimes it is quite difficult. Some hospital's help with obtaining information, others don't. Lynn Axness asked if small claims court has been used. Karen Geske asked what the dollar figure was for the total debt, and Brogan commented that it was \$73,000. Darlene Rossa thought that maybe it would be better to take the patients only to the hospital that helps provide personal information. J. Schultz felt that more action is needed to help collect the debts. Carol Bawek asked if there were possible grants to help with funding. Brogan will speak with Deb Slaby. Jon Schultz made a motion to accept the ambulance budget for 2017. Barb Tock seconded, and the motion carried unanimously with a voice vote.
- **Review and possible approval of operator's license for Kayla Marsolek:** This agenda item was previously discussed during the last Town Board meeting, but due to an error in the application it was tabled. After brief discussion indicating that the establishment had been added to the application, a motion was made by Jon Schultz and seconded by Barb Tock to approve the operator's license. The motion carried unanimously with a voice vote.
- **Update regarding roadwork/bridges:** Discussion on roadwork and bridges started with the Board stating that the River Road Bridge repair has been completed. Pyka Road still needs to be worked on yet. Geske Lane bridgework is done. Karen Geske stated that she has a few concerns that the top may wash away. She was happy, though, that the work was completed fast, they did a good job and the workers were very accommodating. The conversation continued with West Tamarack on whether or not the road should be shouldered yet before winter. Barb Tock remarked that there is a definite lip and something will need to be done. Schultz said that rip-rap may be needed. The Board will review and address again.
- **Discussion of Myers Valley Creek Bridge replacement:** Donna Brogan stated that aid from FEMA was denied. The Town could reapply if the bridge was replaced. The cost of a new bridge was

estimated at \$315,000. Brogan spoke to a DNR representative this week, and it was determined that they will not approve the culvert work that was completed. It is okay for now as it was an emergency situation, but it cannot be a permanent structure. Brogan continued stating that if the Town reapplied for aid it could take 2 to 4 years for approval. Payment structure would be 75% paid by the Federal Government, 12.5% paid by the State, and the remaining 12.5% paid by the Town. The Town could then petition the County for the other half. There is no guarantee that we would receive the aid, though. K. Geske asked if there was a fee to reapply. Tock stated that there is not a fee, but there is a \$15,000 threshold to meet when applying. Brogan commented that a hydrology study may be needed. The Town will need to look at all options, and speak to the DNR to see what they will allow. She will speak to Dan Schreiner and FEMA. Barb Tock felt that the FEMA appeal should be pursued.

- **Discussion regarding Amber Lane roadwork:** Jon Schultz led the discussion, reviewing an excerpt from the July 2014 meeting minutes. According to the notes, Amber Lane was to be blacktopped by July 2015. Town Road regulations were enacted in by a Town ordinance in 1998, which indicate that a road needs to be blacktopped within a certain timeframe. The minutes also stated that the property owner, Larry Soppa, stated that he would be responsible for completing the roadwork. N. Rohn remarked that she could draft a letter to Soppa, asking what his intentions are. D. Brogan commented that the Wislr files should be reviewed to gather more information on town road status of Amber Lane. Rohn stated that she will call the County to check on when the road was dedicated as a town road. Lance Pronschinske offered historical information on the blacktopping, stating that it was supposed to occur in the spring of 2015. Further discussion continued with questions regarding the housing development in general. Concerns were voiced on the amount of duplexes being built. Schultz stated that the development is complying with zoning regulations. Tock stated that it could have been handled differently if there would have been a written agreement. She also feels that Soppa will complete the project.
- **Update on website upgrade:** Barb Tock stated that the Town's webmaster, P. Fetsch, has been busy populating the upgraded website. A list has been sent by Fetsch asking for all policies, resolutions and ordinances to be supplied. He would also like to see photos of the Township that would be of interest...countryside, farms, trails, churches, etc. Tock asked the audience to submit pictures if possible. The hope is to "go live" with the upgraded website by the end of the year.
- **Town Clean-Up review:** N. Rohn reviewed the income and expenses regarding the Fall Clean-up. She stated that the income consisted of revenue from constituents as well as scrap metal. After expenses were figured in, the total income was \$19.10.
- **Discussion regarding mining overlay district:** Jon Schultz began the discussion by stating that during the Comprehensive Plan update the subject of a mining overlay district was proposed. He continued by saying that he has only heard from a few people regarding their thoughts on the subject. Darlene Rossa asked whether or not it was lawful to create such a district. Schultz said that yes it was and used the Town of Caledonia as an example. An explanation was given as to how the mining district works in their township. There are two categories, either aggregate or non-metallic. The County would need the Town to create a district. D. Rossa commented about the fairly large number of gravel pits in the area. She continued by saying that after the owners are done using the pits they do not complete any reclamation. Donna Brogan added that the County regulates the pits depending on the size (if it is under or over 1 acre). Jeff Bawek added that one acre and under parcels are considered barrow pits, and they do not need a reclamation plan. Schultz stated that he feels there is no need to move forward with a mining overlay district unless constituents give guidance. He has taken a neutral stance as he is not sure what kind of resolution an overlay district would create. Karen Geske

brought up what other townships have done; sending out a questionnaire, having the County help design a plan. Her thoughts were to possibly encompass the existing mines and say no to any additional mines. Lynn Axness asked if Geske's thoughts on this would include land between the mines. Geske responded that she thought each one could be an individual district. She continued by saying that a number of townships are leaning towards rural residential when reviewing their land plan. Geske said that she has done quite a bit of research on the subject, and suggested that the Town work on changing the zoning. There are a large number of parcels that currently are zoned "transitional agriculture". These parcels need to be reclassified. Lance Pronschinske was concerned that creating a mining district would limit this one business. To be fair, other businesses as well would have to be limited regarding expansion. Schultz stated that even if a district were implemented, changes can always occur. B. Tock commented that the Town of Caledonia has made changes over the years. She felt that their plan is working for them as it allows people looking to build a new home be able to find property that is not near a mine. D. Rossa was concerned about the rural residential zoning that was mentioned earlier. More and more people are moving closer to the large farmers so it becomes difficult when there are complaints about farming practices. J. Bawek stated that the premise behind a district is to look at the whole infrastructure so that expansion can be allowed. Where does the Town want housing, farming, mining, etc. Need to look at the entire township to get an overall view. D. Brogan agreed that this should be used as a planning tool. It was agreed that the "transitional agriculture" must be changed in the near future. B. Tock stated that after attending a frac sand workshop she learned that there are many factors...costs, administering/enforcing ordinances, permits/licensing, moratoriums. She thinks that the mining overlay district is not the only avenue. Schultz felt that there is already a process in place. Rohn stated that the County indicated that the zoning should be reviewed, but it can be a project for the near future. Schultz commented that it could be looked at after the budgeting process is done. At the end of the discussion, J. Bawek asked if people can change their zoning designation at this time. N. Rohn will call the County.

Correspondence: Voting on the 8th was mentioned; letter from Allied Cooperative regarding the Town's annual dividend; State of WI Traffic Guidelines Manual was received regarding signage; review of materials regarding selling gravel, etc; email received regarding Amber Lane; email from Ayres Associates regarding a plan for a meeting with Mr. Soules (one of the property owners affected by the Mill Road Bridge removal process).

Confirm next meeting date: The Board reviewed agenda items to be added for the next meeting; shouldering West Tamarack, Independence Fire Board budget; Independence road use agreement). The next regular board meeting will be on Thursday, November 10th, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. The meeting was adjourned at 8:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Nancy Rohn
Town of Arcadia Clerk/Treasurer
